

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-15. (cancelled)

16. (new) Apparatus for the illumination of the vestibular/lingual cavity, comprising a symmetrical pair of retractors for the oral cavity, each retractor having a series of spaced punctiform light sources distributed thereon, each said light source comprising the termination of an optical fiber carried by a said retractor.

17. (new) A method for the illumination of the vestibular/lingual cavity which comprises inserting the apparatus of claim 16 into the vestibular/lingual cavity and using said apparatus as an endoscopic lamp to optimize the visualization of inter-proximal caries and to permit the examination of the tooth through the transmitted light, when it is positioned behind the tooth in order to diagnose micro-fractures of the tooth or implants contained therein.

18. (new) A method according to claim 17, wherein the apparatus is a curing lamp, having a diode which emits cold light to cause hardening of composites, the apparatus being provided with a timer specific for the regulation of the composites' hardening.